(b) In view of reply to (a) above this does not arise.

(c) KVIC has decided to subsidise the new model charkha to the extent of 25% of the cost to the beneficiaries if the charkha is purchased directly or through any agency. Such types of charkha is presently in operation at Saharsa in Bihar where KVIC has taken up special programme to generate employment opportunities to rural artisans.

Professionalisation of Board of Directors of PSUs

1690. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) The specific details about the Board of Directors of Public Sector Undertakings which have so far been made professional as promised in the Industrial Policy Statement of July, 1991; and

(b) what has been the impact of professionalisation on performance of Public Sector Undertakings ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES) (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) The Industrial Policy Statement dated 24-7-1991, inter-alia, state that the Boards of public sector companies would be made more professional and given greater powers. In pursuance of this policy, Government has issued, on 16-3-1992, comprehensive guidelines on the composition of Board of Directors of PSUs. These guidelines, inter-alia, provide for appointment of non-official part-time Directors whose number should be not less than one-third of the actual strength of the Board. Other components of the Board would be fulltime functional Directors whose number shall not exceed 50% of the actual strength. The number of part-time official Directors will be restricted to one or two. The process of reconstitution of Boards, which do not conform to these guidelines, is in progress in different Ministries.

(b) It is too early to evaluate the impact of professionalisation of the Boards of PSUs. However, the involvement of professional experts on the Boards is expected to improve the overall performance of the enterprises over a period of time.

Orders from Iran for BHEL

1691. SHRI S. MADHAVAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the capacity utilisation of the BHEL plant at Trichy is going down due to lack of new orders;

(b) if so, what steps are taken to procure new orders;

(c) whether there is any proposal to get orders from Iran for power equipments; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES) (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) BHEL is taking the following steps to procure new orders :

(i) Mopping up business from existing power stations through supply of spares, renovation and modernisation of old equipment.

(ii) Marketing drive to obtain balance orders of VIII and IX plans for steam generating equipment.

(iii) Under the new policy of "Private Sector participation in Power Sector" large number of power projects are expected to be taken up and business in this area is being pursued vigorously.

(iv) Greater thrust on exports by focussing on specific potential areas.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Negotiations with Iran for Kerman Power Station of 840 MW capacity comprising 4 units of 210 each are at an advanced stage.